Orders for 2500 charkhas

2037. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Khadi and Village Industries Commission placed an order for 2500 charkhas on the Sharad Shanti Welfare Centre on 12th September, 1991 and did not lift Charkhas manufactured with KVIC owned Ambar Saran jan Bhandar spare parts vide Challan No. 3644/43;

(b) whether KVIC advised Khadi Board, Maharashtra to lift 200 Char khas from Sharad Shanti Welfare Centre and cancelled the whole order, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether on 19th September, 1992 vide letter No. IND/kh|Charkha|155| 71347, Khadi Board, Maharashtra advised KVIC to implement Mahatma Gandhi's Khadi programme through Sharad Shanti Welfare Centre of Maharashtra in various Districts pro viding continuous employment to the people affected by drought for which Charkha supply programme was agreed to by KVIC for 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The KVIC had placed an order for manufactu-, reofi2500 charkhas with M/s. Sharad Shanti Welfare Centre on 12-9-91. The Centre failed to manufacture the charkhas as per the time schedule.

(b) The KIVC approved Maharashtra State Khadi & V.I. Board plan to lift 200 charkhas for implementing Maharashtra Board's programme for distribution of charkhas on 2-10-1992 in suburbs of Bombay. This request was on the basis of the requirement of the Khadi Board and the Board's supervisors were to lift the charkhas but the Khadi Board authorities wanted only tested charkhas and since Sharad Shanti Welfare Centre had produced only 20 charkhas duly tested, 100 charkhas were made available from a Charkha manufacturing unit from Gujarat. However, the Board was to approach Sharad Shanti Welfare Centre for the supply of remaining charkhas.

(c) The Commission has not received the letter dated 19-9-92 of the Maharashtra State KVI Board. The manufacturing order which was issued to Sharad Shanti Welfare Centre was for manufacture of Charkha alone and there was no specific target attached to it that the Charkha manufactured by Sharad Shanti Welfare Centre will be specifically utilised for distribution in the drought affected Districts of Maharashtra and elsewhere in the country, but it was meant to ba sent (provided the charkhas were manufactured by Sharad Shanti Welfare Centre as per time schedule) to indentee institutions, which have had approved budget allocation and were nearer to Maharashtra State itself. Maharashtra State KVI Board's request for introduction of Charkha in Bombay suburban on 2-10-92 was for future charkhas only. As the Sharad Shanti Welfare Centre could not manufacture the charkhas as per the time schedule, the khadi producing institutions in Maharashtra were reluctant to lift" these charkhas, there was no alternative for KVIC except to cancel the order.

Financial position of Engineering rojects (India) Limited

2038. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Engineering Project (India) Limited has been incurring losses and out of total loans of Rs. 225.74 crores taken by it, the outstanding amount of loans due for repayment up to March 90 wa-; Rs. 115 crores;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the company has to pay Rs. 180 crores on account of interest on loans taken by it and that the total accumulated losses amounted to over

Rs. 345 crores in March 90, if so whether any study /enquiry has ' been made to identify the causes of such financial wreck of the company; and

(c) whether the company in question proposed to Government for waiting off loans and the interest due from it, if so, when and what is the amount separately in respect of both counts and whether Government have taken any decision on that proposal, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The accumulated losses of the company amounted to Rs. 345.63 crores at the end pf March, 1990, including interest on Government loans of Rs. 173.77 crores. A Committee was appointed by EPI to go into the issue of losses incurred by them. The Committee has submitted its report.

(c) The proposal was received in February, 1991 for financial restructuring of EPI including writing off of Government loan of Rs. 160.11 crores and interest on Govt, loan of Rs. 173.77 crores. The proposal is under consideration.

Foreign investment proposals

2039. SHRl PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the Empowered Committee has recently approved 25 foreign investment proposals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of proposals pending before the committee for consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDL TIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the 9th meeting held on 9-2.1993, the Empowered Committee approved 25 foreign investment proposals recommended by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board. Of these, 13 proposals were for setting up 100 per cent Export Oriented Units in areas like Shoes, Synthetic Filament Yarn, Chemicals, Food Pro. cessing Industries Rubber Products and Granites. The proposals cleared by the Empowered Committee envisage direct foreign investment, including NRI investment in Indian Companies, of over Rs. 160 crores.

(c) Consideration of proposals by the Empowered Committee is a continuing process.

Problems of Handicapped persons working in PSUs

2040. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) the details of schemes of rehabilitation of handicapped persons including their employment in the Central Government Undertakings:

(b) whether it is a fact that Gov. ernment have received information from various sources that some of the public sector undertakings are declining to follow the guidelines issued by Government in the matter of treatment meted to handicapped persons;

(c) whether it is also a fact that some of the PSUs have been Contesting the cases with handicapped persons in various courts of law;

(d) whether any effective steps have been taken to resist such deci sions of th$_e$ PSUs; and